

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 09071 021207Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5029

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9071

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CVIS, IT, US
SUBJ: L'UNITA VISA CASE

FOR EUR/WE

I CONCUR THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE L'UNITA DECISION WOULD HAVE THE LEAST IMPACT ON THE ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION, GIVEN THE DELICATE INTER-PARTY NEGOTIATIONS NOW GOING ON FOR A PROGRAMMATIC ACCORD, IF IT BECAME PUBLIC ONLY AFTER AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AMONG THE PARTIES INVOLVED. HOWEVER, OUR DECISION HAS NOW BEEN TAKEN AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, CONSULTATIONS HAVE APPARENTLY ALREADY BEEN INITIATED WITH KEY MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS. THIS SUGGESTS THAT ANY DELAY IN ANNOUNCING THE DECISION RUNS THE SERIOUS RISK OF A LEAK WHICH COULD REDUCE OUR TACTICAL MOBILITY IN EXPLAINING THE RATIONALE FOR OUR DECISION.

IF THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT THE DECISION CAN BE HELD CLOSELY, WHICH WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE AT THE VERY MINIMUM AS ONE OF ITS ELEMENTS A DELAY IN THE INITIATION OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CONGRESS, I WOULD FAVOR POSTPONING NOTIFICATION TO JACOVIELLO OF THE VISA APPROVAL, ASSUMING THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO MOVE PROMPTLY ONCE A PROGRAMMATIC ACCORD IS REACHED. HOWEVER, IF IN THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSESSMENT THE RISK OF A LEAK IS NOW HIGH, I STRONGLY URGE THAT WE ADVISE JACOVIELLO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THAT
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HIS VISA HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED. OUR EFFORTS SHOULD THEN BE CONCENTRATED ON EXPLAINING THE DECISION ALONG THE LINES OF THE PRESS GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN PARA. 2 OF REFTEL. SPECIFICALLY, I BELIEVE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ENSURE THAT AN OPPORTUNITY IS PROVIDED FOR ITS SPOKESMAN TO USE THE GUIDANCE IN THE FIRST RPT FIRST PRESS BRIEFING SCHEDULED AFTER THE EMBASSY INFORMS WASHINGTON THAT JACOVIELLO HAS BEEN FORMALLY ADVISED OF THE VISA

DECISION. ANY DELAY IN SETTING FORTH OUR VIEWS WILL LESSEN THEIR
IMPACT IN TERMS OF THE ITALIAN POLITICAL CONTEXT AND WILL
INCREASE THE PROSPECTS OF MISINTERPRETATION WHICH MANY WILL SEEK
TO GIVE TO THE DECISION. I ALSO REQUEST AUTHORIZATION
TO USE THE PRESS GUIDANCE HERE IN RESPONSE TO INQUERIES WE
MIGHT RECEIVE.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, POLICIES, VISAS, COMMUNISTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: L'UNITA VISA CASE FOR EUR/WE I CONCUR THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE L'UNITA DECISI
TAGS: PINT, CVIS, IT, US
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